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National Toxicology Program
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In this Newsletter:

ICCVAM Public Forum This Thursday, May 23; Agenda Available

Free Workshop on Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning June 6-7

Small Business Grants Available from HHS; Webinar May 29

NTP Update Newsletter

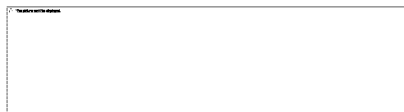
ICCVAM Public Forum This Thursday, May 23; Agenda Available



The ICCVAM Public Forum will be **Thursday, May 23**, at the Natcher Conference Center, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland. Registration for webcast viewing will be open through the end of the meeting. Information and an agenda for the meeting are available at <http://ntp.niehs.nih.gov/go/iccvamforum-2019>.

The ICCVAM Public Forum is held annually to share information and facilitate direct communication of ideas and suggestions to ICCVAM from stakeholders. This year's meeting will include presentations by NICEATM and ICCVAM members on current activities related to the development and validation of alternative test methods and approaches, including activities relevant to implementation of the strategic roadmap for establishing new approaches to evaluate the safety of chemicals and medical products in the United States.

Free Workshop on Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning June 6-7



The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine will hold a workshop on "Algorithms, Air Pollution, and Adverse Outcome Pathways: Leveraging Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning to Advance Environmental Health Research and Decisions." The workshop is **June 6-7** at the National Academy of Sciences in Washington, DC, and will also be webcast. Registration is free. More information is available at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/algorithms-air-pollution-and-adverse-outcome-pathways-leveraging-artificial-intelligence-and-registration-59422914537>.

Approaches such as machine learning and artificial intelligence are being applied to environmental health to characterize pollution, predict chemical toxicity, estimate human exposures, and identify health outcomes. Participants in this workshop will discuss issues of data availability, quality, bias, transparency, and uncertainty in the data used to develop machine learning algorithms that need to be addressed to apply these tools to inform environmental health research and decision making.

The workshop is sponsored by the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), and NICEATM Deputy Director Nicole Kleinstreuer is on the organizing committee.

Small Business Grants Available from HHS; Webinar May 29



The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has released the 2019 Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) Omnibus Grant Solicitations. These solicitations will be used by the National Institutes of Health and other offices within HHS to fund researcher-initiated projects in health, medicine, and life sciences.

Projects being funded by NIEHS under this solicitation include development of short-term assays to reduce or replace existing regulatory animal studies for acute toxicity, reproductive or developmental toxicity, carcinogenicity, or ocular toxicity. NIEHS will also fund projects to develop computational tools for integrating toxicity data, including *in vivo* and *in vitro* data, to analyze and visualize data across different screening systems. More information about these funding opportunities is available at <https://sbir.nih.gov/funding>. The first deadline for applications under this announcement is **September 5**.

A **May 29 webinar** will provide a brief overview of SBIR/STTR funding and instructions for applying. Register for the webinar at <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/483596398390515457>.

NTP Update Newsletter

The May NTP Update newsletter is available at <https://ntp.niehs.nih.gov/update/index.html>. In addition to a summary of NICEATM activities, this month's issue includes articles about NTP advances in screening chemicals for carcinogenic activity and testimony by NIEHS Director Linda Birnbaum at Congressional hearings on per- and polyfluoralkyl substances, also known as PFAS.

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The NTP Interagency Center for the Evaluation of Alternative Toxicological Methods (NICEATM) supports the development and evaluation of new, revised, and alternative methods to identify potential hazards to human health and the environment, with a focus on replacing, reducing, or refining animal use. NICEATM provides support to the [Interagency Coordinating Committee on the Validation of Alternative Methods \(ICCVAM\)](#).

NTP is located at the [National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences](#), part of the [National Institutes of Health](#).

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